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Identical letters dated 4 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, in a dangerous and provocative attack, Hezbollah, an internationally recognized terrorist organization, detonated a powerful explosive device targeting Israeli Defense Forces vehicles in Israeli territory, in the Mount Dov region in northern Israel.

This violent attack is in blatant violation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). It follows a recent barrage of rocket attacks against Israeli cities from southern Lebanon, and weeks of threats against Israel made by the leadership of Hezbollah. The credibility of these threats must be seen in the context of Hezbollah's massive build-up of its military infrastructure in southern Lebanon, which it has been carrying out unmolested for years. Hezbollah now has tens of thousands of rockets and missiles stationed within civilian populations of southern Lebanon, some of which have the range to threaten the whole of Israel. All of this is in direct violation of international law and Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

Israel will not accept attacks on its territory or against its citizens, and will take all necessary measures to protect its people. Israel holds the Government of Lebanon fully responsible for any attacks coming out of its territory.

The international community must not continue to turn a blind eye to Hezbollah's flagrant violations of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). Today's attack further demonstrates the urgent need for the Security Council to take action before the situation further deteriorates.

Hezbollah must be disarmed, and the Government of Lebanon must fully abide by its international commitments and fully implement Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

I call on the Security Council to publicly condemn Hezbollah and today's attack, and to demand that the Government of Lebanon meet its obligations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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